

SUNSHINE PERIOD

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Received
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Communication Center

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
455 12th Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioners:

Allowing the Baby Bells to increase market power without strong regulatory oversight is a formula for disaster for consumers. It looks to me as if that is the direction your current regulations are headed.

Your new regulations for unbundled network elements should serve **customers**, not create local phone monopolies. Don't let SBC, Verizon and the other Baby Bells mark up their wholesale services so high that customers once again have no choices for local service. Line sharing that allows other companies to economically offer high speed internet access is also essential.

Strong regulation is the only way to prevent phone monopolies from forming all over again, which will increase our rates. Remember that when Americans have to pay more for utilities in bad economic times, we're going to spend even less elsewhere and the economy will continue on a downward spiral. Please, take strong action to protect customers.

Claire Lomax

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